

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

2 May 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service Last bulletin: April 28, 2005

Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified in Manatee County. Patchy very low impacts are possible in Manatee County today through Thursday. The bloom continues to dissipate along the coast.

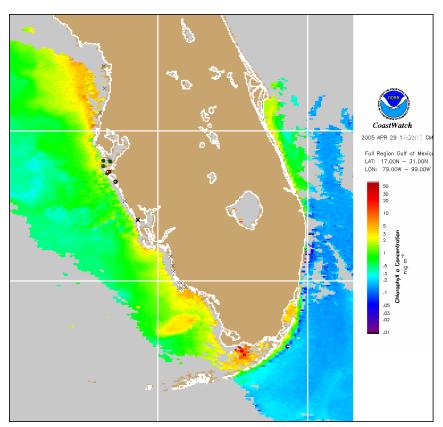
Analysis: Much of recent imagery has been obscured by clouds. Imagery from April 28 indicates a chlorophyll level of >4 μ g/L just west of the mouth of Tampa Bay at 27°36'N, 82°49'W. Most recent samples in SW Florida from last week had normal levels of Karenia brevis. Samples in Manatee County from last week had low and very low levels of K brevis. Movement and intensification of the bloom is unlikely through Thursday.

There is a high chlorophyll feature south of Cape Romano centered at 25°33'N, 81°43'W. Recent samples in this area had background levels of K. brevis. This feature is most likely a non-harmful bloom.

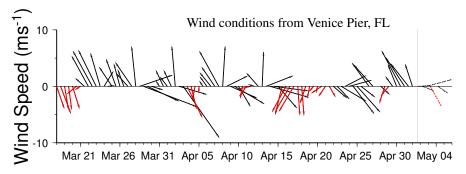
Cedar Key: FWRI reported a visual sighting of discolored water off of Cedar Key on April 13. Imagery from April 28 indicates a chlorophyll level >9 μ g/L just south of Cedar Key at 29°2'N, 83°4'W. No recent sample data from this area are available. Sampling is recommended.

Bronder, Stolz, Keller

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from April 21, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

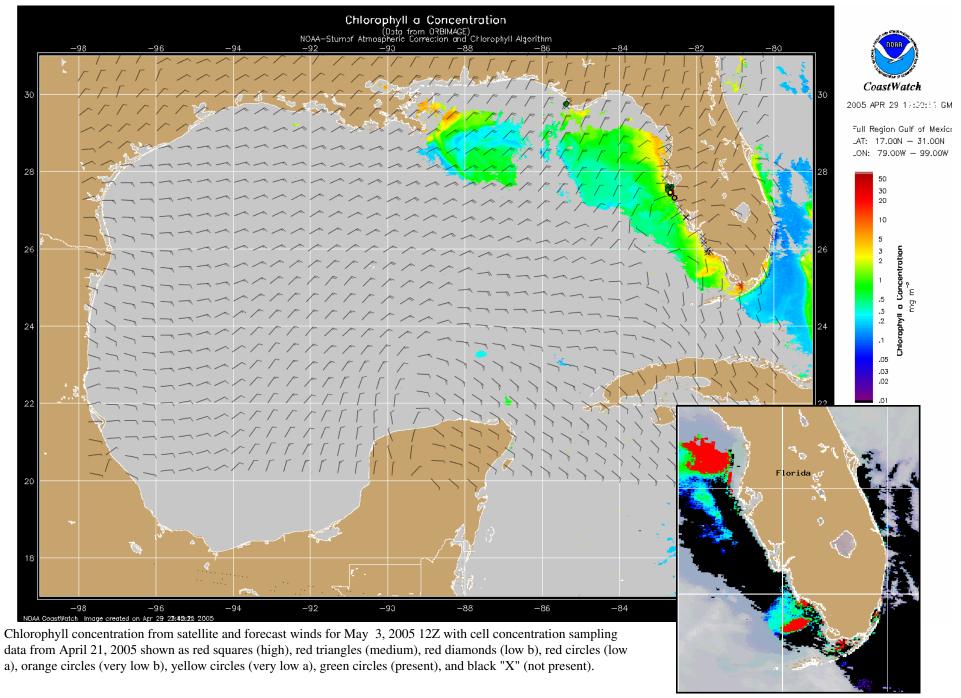
SW Florida: Winds will be northeast (15 kts, 8 m/s) today and tomorrow, east tomorrow night through Wednesday, and southeast (10 kts, 5 m/s) on Thursday.

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Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)

